

REMARKS

Claims 1–11 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, and 11 are amended hereby. Without limiting the claims to the full scope they are entitled to, exemplary support for the amendments can be found at, inter alia, Figures 1, 2 and 4, page 4, line 10 to page 5, line 25, and page 8, lines 11 to 21.

Claims 1-3, 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,215,982 to Trompower (“Trompower”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,133,666 to Arai (“Arai”). Claims 4-6, 8 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) over Trompower in view of Arai and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,470,184 to Machida (“Machida”). Applicants traverse and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal all the rejections.

For the reasons amply discussed in Applicants’ Response dated November 21, 2007, the entirety of which is incorporated by reference herein, and in view of the present amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record. Accordingly Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of withdrawal of all the rejections.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Application No. 10/678,232
Submission dated January 24, 2008

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No fee is believed to be due for this Submission. Should any fees be required, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

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Respectfully submitted,

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